



It's difficult to believe that another year has come and gone. South Carolina state government has had a challenging year and as the New Year begins, I'm sure we are all hoping for a more stable and less complicated 2010.

During this past legislative session, the legislature formed the Sentencing Reform Commission. The mission of the Commission focuses on the state's criminal justice system. During the regular session and in meetings held in during the summer and fall, Commission members have been reviewing national trends and evaluating their applicability to South Carolina's justice system. Recent reports reveal an explosion of growth in the number of people on probation or parole nationally. Currently, there are "more than 5 million, up from 1.6 million just 25 years ago. This means that 1 in 45 adults in the United States is now under criminal justice supervision in the community", according to a report released this year by the Pew Center on the States. Pew also reports that "1 in every 31 adults" is under some form of correctional control (supervision, prison or jail). Though the majority of these offenders live in the community, data in the report finds that nearly 90 percent of state corrections dollars are spent on prisons. In light of this information, themes for discussion during SC Sentencing Reform Commission meetings have included offender rehabilitation strategies, streamlining and avoiding duplication in the system, and identifying creative

justice solutions in the scarce economic environment. I expect these discussions to continue as the new legislative session begins, and PPP will offer constructive input in support of the Commission's important work.



The economy and the state's budget scenario will, of course, continue to shape the future. During 2009, PPP endeavored to nurture a careful approach to the expenditure of resources, while recognizing that some spending is vital to accomplishing our work. It has been somewhat of a balancing act, and I believe PPP has done well in this regard. We have preserved our Department's basic systems and services, and allocated resources responsibly. Agents continue to supervise offenders in our communities, ensuring a particularly watchful eye on those who pose the most significant risk to public safety. The rest of us perform our daily work, contributing to the essential infrastructure that supports our Agents in the field. The New Year will certainly find us continuing to make our crucial contributions to the state's criminal justice system.

Welcome to 2010! I hope you and yours had a wonderful holiday season and that you got lots of rest to prepare for the year ahead that promises new challenges and opportunities.

~~ Sam Glover

2009 South Carolina Criminal Justice Conference

By Deon Wilform, Interstate Compact

The SC Probation and Parole Association (SCPPA) and the SC Correctional Association (SCCA) once again joined forces in co-sponsorship the 2009 SC Criminal Justice Training Conference at the Ocean Drive Resort in North Myrtle Beach (November 8-11, 2009). Despite the diminished resources many law enforcement agencies are facing, there were 239 participants for this year's Conference. The participants enjoyed insightful, informative and rejuvenating plenary sessions and workshops; the Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet; and fun networking opportunities.



Conference attendees enjoyed food, fun and "vendor goodies" during workshop breaks.

2009 SC-NABCJ Training Conference

Submitted by Deon Wilform, Field Operations

A great 16th Annual One-Day Training Conference was had by all in attendance! On December 4, 2009, SC-NABCJ sponsored its annual training conference at the Brookland Banquet and Conference Center in West Columbia. Close to 100 participants engaged in two plenary sessions during the first part of the day, concurrent workshops after an uplifting lunch and a diverse selection of vendors/sponsors. As we move into an era of much change, this year's focus and theme of *"Letting Our Past Influence Our Future"* was emphasized in every aspect of the Conference. Opening the Conference was an encouraging message and testament to the criminal justice professionals in attendance by a former offender, Mr. Joshua Stroman, who provided living proof that what we do on a daily basis DOES make a difference. The scrumptious lunch provided by Brookland was followed by an inspirational challenge from Mr. Walter Ridley of The Ridley Group, LLC who simply stated SC-NABCJ and its supporters strive to make an impact in whatever it is that we commit to do. The afternoon brought informative work-shop sessions from the SLED GangNet Taskforce, Attorney Zipporah Sumpter (wife of PPP Hearing Officer BJ Sumpter) on Estates and Wills, Ms. Stephanie Gordon (SCDC) on the Power of Positive Thinking and a continuation from the luncheon address from Mr. Walter Ridley.



SC-NABCJ conference attendees were greeted by volunteers at the registration table at the Brookland Banquet and Conference Center in West Columbia.

Historical Decision Made

The South Carolina Board of Pardons and Paroles voted unanimously on October 14th to pardon brothers Thomas and Meeks Griffin for the 1913 conviction of murder. These were the first posthumous pardons granted for a capital case in the state's history. The men were executed on September 29, 1915.

The brothers are ancestors of radio personality Tom Joyner, who made a personal appeal to the Board to pardon his great-uncles. Also appearing at the hearing were several members of the Joyner family, as well as Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates, legal historian Paul Finkelman of New York and Columbia attorney Stephen Benjamin.

Joyner only recently learned of his ancestors during filming of the PBS feature, *"African American Lives 2"* hosted by Gates.

More SCCJTC Highlights



Colonial Life representative Sandra Sims (2nd from left) presents vendor door prizes to James Johnson, SCDC, Chester AIC Katherine Moore, and Montez Creed, DJJ during a conference break.



No time to sit still!

Kershaw Correctional Institution Warden (and SCCA President-Elect), Cecilia Reynolds showed this group of conference attendees all about "Getting Fit Behind Bars."

PPP Director Sam Glover congratulates Tom Joyner and his family following the Parole Board's decision to grant pardons to Thomas and Meeks Griffin.



A Look Back on the GPS Program – Change is Good

By Rebecca Raybon, Field Operations

If you have been involved with the Department's GPS program, take a moment to reflect on how far we have advanced and the many changes since 2004.

- GPS devices have evolved to be more compact and only one piece for the offender to carry.
- The creation of the GOC has led to the reduction of responses by field Agents in only one third of the alerts.
- Our most recent vendor, Satellite Tracking of People (STOP) has a component that allows it to work similar to a traditional EM device when the offender is at home. Once the offender leaves, the device begins looking for GPS.
- The GOC has begun using crime scene correlation more consistently to help SLED solve crimes. This is a valuable tool that provides location information on the Department's GPS offenders in relation to dates and times of crimes committed. GOC Agent LaSheika VanDyke was valuable in providing information to SLED which placed a GPS offender at the scene of a double homicide. This offender was later arrested as the suspect.
- All Electronic Monitoring alerts now go to the GOC to review and notify the Agent of the alert and possible suggestions to remedy the alert from reoccurring.

Through the last five years the Department has invested many hours into training Agents, learning how to operate various types of equipment, and troubleshooting issues to make the program better. Change has proven to be a good thing.



Thin Blue Invitational

Greenville Agents participated in the 2009 Thin Blue Invitational Shooting Match at the Anderson County Shooting Range on October 23, 2009. This was a multi-agency firearms match with teams from various law enforcement agencies in the area. Front Row (L-R): Tony Anderson, Miranda Ware, and Shelley Baughcome. Second Row (L-R): R. J. Gilbert, Harold Moon, Jonathan Simmons, and Kenneth Clarke. Abbeville AIC Ed Strickland (not pictured) also participated in the match.

Orangeburg County Job Fair

Submitted by AIC Kim Brantley

On October 22, 2009, the Orangeburg County Probation Office with Orangeburg County DSS, One Stop, along with several other agencies, worked together to provide a job fair at the Prince of Orange Mall in Orangeburg, SC. Hundreds of people turned out for this event. Two Agents, Frank Peterson and Johnny Thrower, represented SCDPPPS. Despite the current budget cuts, many people informed the Agents of their wishes to work for the Department or perform an internship. The Agents also were able to demonstrate the use of the Electronic Monitoring unit, GPS system, as well as how the Department performs on a daily basis. The event has been put on yearly and has been very beneficial to the Orangeburg, Denmark, and Calhoun County areas for those seeking employment.



A lot of excitement was generated at the PPP/DSS Job Fair in Orangeburg.



Mmm, That Was Good!

Agent Gary Justice enjoys the selections of homemade goodness at Richland County's annual Chili Cook-off. Supervisor Tara Horton and Agent Quintus Young received the People's Choice Awards for their respective recipes.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHT — LANCASTER COUNTY OFFICE

Submitted Lynn Oliver, Lancaster Agent-In-Charge

There are cycles to life. The more things change, the more they stay the same. Criminal Justice facilities in Lancaster County have been plagued by arson over the years in an attempt to stop justice. On April 13, 2000 the Lancaster County Office was destroyed by fire at the hands of an offender whose one goal was to stop the system. The staff reported to work the next morning, set up business in the grand jury room of the Courthouse and began restoring the office. No one asked what to do or how we would go on, they just went to work and went on. Staff members worked for six months in the Old County Jail House. This building too had a history of arson. On December 27, 1979 an inmate set fire to a mattress and eleven prisoners died that night. On August 4, 2008 the Courthouse was destroyed by fire allegedly at the hands of another offender. He was also charged with setting fire to the Sixth Circuit Solicitor's Office on August 7, 2008. Court was held that same week in the Municipal Courtroom. Agents worked with local and state law enforcement throughout the night and over the next weeks to guard government offices including PPP's office. Such is the nature of those drawn to serve. We don't see the obstacles, but the possibilities.

Such also is the nature of those who serve through SCDPPPS the people of Lancaster County, the State of SC and the United States of America. With the current foe being budget restraints and recession, staff in Lancaster band together to strive to provide quality supervision to offenders, prioritizing their needs in order to prepare them to become productive, law abiding citizens. We utilize community resources and work closely with the local service providers. Currently one of the larger obstacles facing rehabilitation is the high percentage of unemployment locally. Agents also work closely with local law enforcement to track the activities of offenders in the community. Law enforcement officers often seek information on offenders from agents regarding their firsthand knowledge and familiarity with individuals they supervise.

The bottom line is the people who make it all work. Lancaster is served by two outstanding Human Service Specialists, Janice Watts and Katie Martin. Together they complete entry of all the cases into the Offender Management System. They are unique individuals. Mrs. Watts has years of experience and a wealth of knowledge for agents to draw on. She has rolled with all of the changes of the agency for over thirty-two years providing us all with a roll model for continuing growth and perseverance to do anything put before us. Katie Martin contributes (among many things) her exceptional computer skills. She works tirelessly assisting agents with data entry and numerous other tasks.

Richard Weiss, the Victim Service Coordinator, helps monitor ISC cases, handles the majority of court intake, assists with transports, and helps monitor the remaining cases from Lancaster's deployed agent. Then there are three primary caseload supervising agents who currently have to carry an average of 185 active cases each. Yes, active cases, not

pending and not absconded, ACTIVE. Agent Wenona Boyd works tirelessly to spend more time than she has to identify the needs of offenders. She supervises and ensures that offenders are referred to the most appropriate resource for assistance. Agent Ed Lockhart tirelessly works with his caseload as well, but the thing you notice first about Ed is the fact that he is always positive and greets you with a smile no matter what. Agent LaQuandra Sistare monitors sex offenders, Community Supervision Releases and a myriad of other offenders. She holds herself to a superior standard of accountability to ensure she is thorough in administering the guidelines for the supervision of these high profile cases. And finally but by no means least, Team Leader Jennifer Brice who works long tireless hours to meet the needs of those she supervises and to facilitate their ability to carry out their labors. She is challenged more now than ever to be a creative problem solver and never falters or becomes dismayed with the task no matter how difficult the situation. Last is Lancaster's dear Agent, Tim Williams. Those who know Tim know of his compassion and unending drive to serve and help others. He is currently deployed serving as Chaplain for the Wounded Warriors Battalion at camp Lejeune.

Now you know how they work, but you don't know who they are. They are the people who never turn their back on someone in need. They have assisted offenders released from prison in finding housing when no one else would help; feeding, clothing and assisting in them in furnishing their homes. They assisted a crack addicted offender whose twin sister passed away with clothing for the funeral and food for visiting family. They fill in where the State stops. No one asks for the help, they just see the need and provide. The Lancaster staff are a unique group of people who have been brought together to serve in a unique way. I am proud and honored to have been placed among them. The bottom line, SCDPPPS is no more than the people who work here and so it is with the Lancaster Office. The employees are and will always be the Department's most valuable and most resilient asset.



Lancaster County staff (left to right front row) Ed Lockhart, Jennifer Brice, LaQuandra Sistare, Janice Watts; (standing left to right) Richard Weiss, Wenona Boyd, Lynn Oliver and Kathryn Martin.

FITNESS: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR A HEALTHY WEIGHT



Submitted by Paul Angus,
Human Resources Office

As 2009 comes to an end, many will focus on how they can improve their health in 2010. Physical activity and healthy diet are most important in achieving and maintaining a healthier lifestyle. Regular physical activity is especially important if you're trying to lose weight or to maintain a healthy weight. Key points to consider about physical activity include:

- " When losing weight, more physical activity increases the number of calories your body uses for energy. Burning calories through physical activity, combined with reducing the number of calories you eat, creates a "calorie deficit" that results in weight loss.
- " Most weight loss occurs because of decreased caloric intake. However, evidence shows regular physical activity is the only way to maintain weight loss.
- " Most importantly, physical activity reduces risks of cardiovascular disease and diabetes more than by weight reduction alone.

People vary greatly in how much physical activity they need to manage their weight. Here are some guidelines:

To maintain your weight: Engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity at least five times a week. Strong scientific evidence shows that physical activity can help you maintain your weight over time. However, the exact amount of physical activity needed to do this is not clear since it varies greatly from person to person.

To lose weight and keep it off: You will need lots of physical activity unless you also adjust your diet and reduce the amount of calories you're eating and drinking. Getting to and staying at a healthy weight requires both regular physical activity and a healthy eating plan.

Source: Prevention Partners December 2009 Fitness Article

H1N1 Influenza Summit

By Patrice Boyd, Asst. Dep. Dir., HR and
Records Administration

In October, the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) held an H1N1 Influenza Summit (Swine Flu Summit) at the Columbia Convention Center. SCDHEC wants to help leaders in their readiness efforts for the influenza pandemic and to consistently involve federal, state and local officials in planning matters. This Summit connected leaders from public and private organizations, all of whom have an important role to play in preparing the state for the possibility of a pandemic. The importance of planning regarding this pandemic was strongly emphasized in order to reduce the impact on our daily lives and the economy. The over-arching message for the Summit was to practice "social distancing". Social distancing is trying to limit the spread of a disease by limiting person-to-person contact. During a pandemic, schools and many businesses would be closed, and church activities and sporting events would be canceled. Also, it's important for businesses and faith-based communities to be a part of the planning strategy for a pandemic.



Pictured are: RD Clift Howle, Angie Salley, Park Ranger Rick Smith, AIC Jerry Hamberis, PSE Coordinator Tony Davidson, Eric Howington (golf shop employee) and David Hyde (golf Pro and Course Manager).

Cheraw State Park – A PSE Partner

Cheraw State Park was recognized on November 24, 2009 for its continued service to SCDPPPS as a Public Service Worksite. Regional Director Clift Howle, Agent In Charge Jerry Hamberis, and PSE Program Coordinator Angie Salley were present on November 24, 2009 at the Cheraw State Park as PSE Coordinator Tony Davidson presented Park Ranger Rick Smith with an award of appreciation for continued service as a SCDPPPS Public Service Worksite. The Cheraw State Park has served as a worksite since 1988. Tony has worked with the worksite since he became the PSE coordinator in Chesterfield county in 2005. The offenders assigned to the State Park perform grounds keeping both for the park and the golf course which opened in 1991. Park Ranger Smith is pleased with this partnership and enjoys having the worksite employees around to assist in maintaining the park. He extended a warm welcome for everyone to visit the Cheraw State park for some camping, trail hiking, boating, fishing and golfing!

Out to Lunch

Fairfield County Staff enjoy a lunch at Sumo's Japanese Restaurant in Columbia, South Carolina. Pictured from left to right are: AIC Tiffany Phillips, Chef Darren, Agent Demond Davis, Agent Kevin Kelly and Human Services Specialist April Abusah.



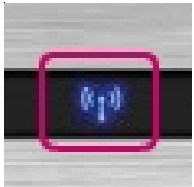
Wireless Capability in the HP Laptop

Submitted by Beverly Steele, ITSS HElp Desk Manager

A great feature of our new computer equipment is the line of touch icons, located above the keyboard on your laptop. This line shows items such as the power, the volume, if your caps-lock is turned on, etc. It also has touch capability for other items, such as the volume control or the wireless capability. The new laptops are wireless enabled, meaning that if you are in a wireless environment (such as at an Internet café or the library) it can connect to the network.

While wireless capability is great, a few issues have cropped up because of it. Users who connect to wireless in the courtroom have trouble connecting back in their office, because the laptop is trying to connect to the wireless network. Also, some of these wireless networks are not steady – the signal may come and go. Because of this, each time the wireless network is detected or the computer loses connection with it, it will pop up a message. This can get very annoying (so what can you do)? You can disable the wireless function of your laptop when you are not using it. Disabling it is a simple process and only takes one swipe of your finger. Disabling your wireless capability will not hurt your computer in any way.

To Disable/Enable Your Wireless Capability:



Wireless
Icon

- 1 Open laptop & find the line of touch icons, located above the keyboard.
- 2 Locate the Wireless Icon on the line. If the icon is blue, it's enabled. If it's orange, it's disabled.
- 3 If your icon is blue, lightly brush your finger over it. This should turn your icon orange. This doesn't take much pressure – about the same as brushing a piece of dust off your laptop.
- 4 To enable your wireless capability, brush your finger over the icon again. This will turn it back on, and the color should change to blue.



Touch Icons on the Laptop

A more detailed handout on this subject is located on the agency's Intranet, under the Useful Links, ITS Tips and Tricks page.

STAFF PROMOTIONS

Luther Patrick Agent In Charge Clarendon County

Luther is a 18-year veteran of the department and was serving as a Team Leader in the Florence office. Luther has held a variety of jobs in the department to include Intensive Agent, Youthful Offender Agent, and Court Agent. He is also an Agency Basic Training Instructor. Luther serves on several boards and commissions in Florence county to include the Circle Park Substance Abuse Advisory Board and the Fatherhood and Family Engagement Program. Luther brings a vast amount of knowledge and experience to this position.



Ann Blakely Agent In Charge Georgetown County



Ann is a 28-year veteran of the Department. During her tenure with the department she has served in a variety of positions to include the supervision of offenders, investigation, court, and ICOTS. Ann is very active

in her community and in her church, where she serves as the Coordinator for the Missionettes Girls Program. Ann brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position.

Mark Your Calendars



By Jodi Gallman, Director of
Community Affairs

JANUARY

January is National Mentoring Month. The Department joins other organizations across the nation in recognizing Mentors. Mentors strengthen the re-entry process.

January is also National Blood Donor Month. During this month consider participating in local blood drives in your area. Together we can save lives by giving blood.

FEBRUARY

February is National American Heart Month. Show your support by wearing red on February 5th (National Wear Red Day) to increase awareness of the number one leading cause of heart disease.

MARCH

We celebrate several awareness programs during this month. Of note are National Poison Prevention Month and National Nutrition Month. As we observe the importance of being healthy, we must adhere to the warning signs and symptoms of those habits that are detrimental to us.

Best Wishes for the New Year!



Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE)

Submitted by Melissa Ray, Director of TCPD

Class 1 Law Enforcement Agents are required to re-certify every three years by successfully completing at least 40 hours of CLEE. The majority of these hours can be acquired by completing the yearly mandatory courses such as the CJA Updates, PPCT and Firearms. However, in some instances, these courses may not provide Agents with the required 40 hours of training for the three-year period. TCPD is pleased to announce that the CJA has approved some of PPP professional development courses for CLEE credit. Some courses are listed below: Arrest Scenario, Addictions Awareness, Managing Young Offenders, Ethics in Community Corrections, Emotional Intelligence, Preparing Future Leaders Through Peer-to-Peer Mentoring, Stress Management, Time Management, Anger Management, Understanding the Nature of Conflict, and Organizational Skills. All approved courses are denoted in the on-line training catalogue as approved CLEE credit courses.

The CJA also offers videos and DVD's that can be viewed to obtain additional CLEE credit. Any C-1 certified staff member can request the videos listed on the CJA website under the "Library" link by sending an e-mail request to Nina Burket at NLBrunet@sccja.org. If the video is available it will be mailed directly to you and it will be your responsibility to return it to the CJA in a timely manner. Once you have viewed the tape, you will need to complete Form 1360 and submit it to TCPD in order to receive CLEE credit.

If you have any questions regarding the CLEE courses or your required training hours, you may contact a member of TCPD.

C.O.D.E.

Connecting Our Deployed Employees

By Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs

**"Seasons Greetings" to our Hometown Heroes.
We bring you a bit of cheer,
And send Best Wishes for the year!**

Stephen Gunnells is currently stationed at Fort Jackson. Cards and letters can be sent to:
MAJ Stephen Gunnells
122 EN BN
S-6
523 Pascal Dr.
Greenwood, SC 29649
Email: stephen.gunnells@us.army.mil

Ricky Padgett is currently stationed at Fort Eustis, VA.
Cards can be sent to
151 Arcadia Springs Circle
Columbia, SC, 29206
Email: ricky.padgett@us.army.mil

Tim Williams is stationed at Camp LeJeune. Well wishes can be sent to:
Chaplain Tim Williams
Wounded Warrior Battalion-East
PSC Box 20008
Camp Lejeune, N.C. 28542-0008
E-mail: james.t.williams@usmc.mil

Welcome back **Antonio Vaught** and **Bob Ayers** – your PPP duties are awaiting you!

As they continue to give their personal best, send a greeting that will brighten their day. Remember, they are encouraged by our notes of appreciation and support!

Retirees March 2009 to Present

Harold Aiken
Louis Ashley
Joan Byers
Donna Davis
James Dean
Edgar Donnald
Tony Dukes
Pauline Fludd
Merritt Graves
Pamela Hausladen
Arbedella Johnson
Bobby Jones
Agnes Kirkland
Henry Alan Miller
John Peek
Kathy Scott
Charles Williams
Gwendolyn Williams

THE INFORMER

South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole & Pardon Services

THE INFORMER is a quarterly publication of the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (SCDPPPS). Articles may be reprinted without permission; however, proper credit is requested for any material used. *THE INFORMER* solicits photographs and story ideas from SCDPPPS staff. These, along with any inquiries or comments, should be directed by e-mail to Informer Editor, Rhonda Grant at rgrant@ppp.state.sc.us, or by postal mail to the Office of Executive Programs, SCDPPPS, 2221 Devine Street, P.O. Box 50666, Columbia, South Carolina, 29250.

The Honorable Mark Sanford
Governor

Samuel B. Glover
Director

Rhonda Grant
Director, Office of Executive Programs
Newsletter Editor

Arnise N. Moultrie
Office of Executive Programs
Newsletter Designer

Expungement Workshop Announced



SCDPPPS Director of Community Affairs Jodi Gallman explains the details of an upcoming workshop on expungement and pardons at a news conference. Behind her are Columbia Urban League President J.T. McLawhorn, Jr., sponsor of the workshop along with workshop presenters SCDPPPS Attorney Tommy Evans and Richland County Deputy Solicitor John Meadors.

Understanding the Restraining Order and Order of Protection Processes

By Carol Woodard, Director of Victim Services

An informational training session on "Understanding the Restraining Order and Order of Protection Processes" was sponsored by the Department's Office of Victim Services. The training session brought awareness to the proper protocols for dealing with restraining orders and orders of protection in South Carolina. Victim Services staff from within the Agency, as well as victim services providers from outside the Department, along with Probation and Parole Agents, participated in the day-long training held at Central Office. Great speakers included: Judge Gary Morgan, Magistrate from Lexington County; Attorney Jack Swerling of Columbia; Investigator Johnathan Talkish of Richland County Sheriff's Office; Investigator Scott Neel and Victim Services Liaison April Bayne of West Columbia, Police Department; and Deb Haney and Sara Owen of Sistercare. The training received rave reviews from the participants. A special thanks goes to staff from the Office of Executive Programs, Community Affairs, Training Compliance and Professional Development and Mrs. Gwen Bright for their assistance.

AGENCY MISSION

To **prepare** offenders under our supervision toward becoming productive members of the community;
to **provide** assistance to the victims of crimes, the courts and the Parole Board; and
to **protect** public trust and safety.

AGENCY MOTTO

PREPARE, PROVIDE AND PROTECT